



GREEN BUILDING INITIATIVE FACT SHEET

The Green Building Initiative (Executive Order S-20-04, Dec 14, 2004) seeks to achieve significant improvements in commercial building energy efficiency statewide. It specifically directs the State to take aggressive action to reduce electricity usage in State-owned buildings 20 percent by 2015.

Leading by Example

The Executive Order further challenges State government to demonstrate leadership by becoming a model of energy and resource efficiency at State-owned buildings by upgrading them to be more energy efficient. This includes designing, constructing and operating buildings as LEED-Silver certified buildings (LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). The LEED certification program is administered by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The Executive Order requests other entities not under direct executive authority to actively participate in this effort including: the University of California, California State University, California Community Colleges, constitutional officers, legislative and judicial branches, and the California Public Utilities Commission. The California Public Employees Retirement System and State Teachers Retirement System are requested to target resource efficient buildings in their investments.

Green Building Action Plan & Green Action Team

Accompanying the Executive Order, the Green Building Action Plan provides detailed direction for meeting the requirements of the Executive Order. The Action Plan outlines objectives for public sector and commercial buildings, and provides specific direction for various State agencies.

The Green Action Team oversees and directs progress toward the goals of the Green Building Order. This interagency team meets bi-monthly and is organized into three committees:

- Green Building Committee – Focusing on LEED, leasing, commissioning, schools.
- Energy Efficiency – Focusing on benchmarking, conservation, retrofits, standards.
- Financing and Execution – Focusing on project delivery and financing mechanisms, life cycle costing, incentives.

(more)

Green Building Initiative Fact Sheet

To advise the Green Action Team, a Real Estate Industry Leadership Council (RILC) was created consisting of seven private sector commercial real estate leaders. The RILC is chaired by Dan Emmett (CEO, Douglas, Emmett & Co.).

Achieving Executive Order Goals

New Buildings

The energy and sustainability performance of new and renovated State buildings is being improved through the LEED certification process.

Key activities:

- To date, six completed DGS-managed buildings have achieved LEED-New Construction (LEED-NC) certification.
- Eighteen more projects (43 separate buildings) under design or construction are pursuing LEED-NC Silver certification.
- DGS is developing procedures to ensure buildings smaller than 10,000 square feet meet LEED-NC Silver standards.

Existing Buildings

The energy performance of existing State buildings is being improved through a combination of efforts including the optimization and repair of existing systems (retro-commissioning), the implementation of energy efficiency retrofits, the institution of improved operating procedures for building systems, and the implementation of energy and resource conservation measures by building occupants.

Key activities:

- Benchmarking all State buildings for energy usage.
- Retro-commissioning State buildings to achieve eight percent savings from improved building systems operations (HVAC, lighting, controls).
- Retrofitting State buildings with energy efficient equipment to achieve 12 percent savings.
- Attaining LEED-Existing Buildings (LEED-EB) certifications. The Education building at the Capital Area East End Complex in Sacramento is aiming for the highest LEED rating possible: Platinum.

(Updated 6-2006)